

were scant, as the plane had been consumed by flames upon crashing, followed by more than 30 years of deterioration in a jungle environment.

During the 34th year following his last day on Earth, this Woodrow Wilson High School alumnus was buried in Arlington National Cemetery, in common with the limited remains of his fellow crewmembers. Every Class of 1958 Woodrow Wilson High School classmate who served honorably in this Nation's Armed Forces gave something, but this one airman gave all for his country and in a greater sense, his family and his classmates. The Woodrow Wilson High School Class of 1958 alumni gathering in Beckley, West Virginia tomorrow wish to honor this classmate, Major George Winton Thompson, by having his name placed in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, as evidence he has yet to be forgotten. I hereby honor that request, as this is the first class reunion that the group has known the outcome of Major Thompson's story.

INTRODUCTION OF THE LEGACY ACT: LIVING EQUITABLY, GRANDPARENTS AIDING CHILDREN AND YOUTH

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to join my good friend Congressman JACK QUINN in introducing important legislation to help address an issue in our Nation that is only starting to receive national attention—grandparents raising their grandchildren.

According to recent data from the Census Bureau, the number of intergenerational families increased more than fifty percent between 1990 and 1998. It is estimated that more than 2.5 million grandparents across America are raising their grandchildren. Many of these children have parents who have passed away, are in prison, or are suffering from drug or alcohol addictions, while some have been taken out of abusive homes.

These intergenerational families or "Grandfamilies" live in rural areas, inner cities and suburbs. They come from all races and ethnicities, and live in every State in the Nation. Many of these grandparents survive on fixed incomes—social security, a small pension—and face not only the rising cost of prescription drugs, but also the cost of diapers, baby formula, toys, and school clothes.

Unfortunately, our Nation's housing policy has not kept up with the unique needs of these families. There are very few housing developments specifically designed for intergenerational families. The Grandfamilies House in Boston, Massachusetts in my Congressional District offers apartments with special features for both grandparents and children, including childproof kitchen cabinets and handicapped-accessible bathrooms. There are also activities for seniors and children, an outdoor playground and an on-site computer lab.

I am introducing the LEGACY Act in response to the growing number of communities throughout the Nation that have been working to build on the model of the Grandfamilies House in Boston. The title of the legislation was inspired by an Academy Award nomi-

nated documentary film chronicling the life of a grandmother raising her grandchildren and their struggle to move out of a Chicago housing project.

The legislation creates demonstration programs through both the Section 8 Housing Certificate Fund and the Section 202 Elderly Housing program. These demonstration projects will enable housing developers and advocacy groups additional flexibility in securing financing for this housing and providing ongoing services to intergenerational families.

In addition, the LEGACY Act clarifies that grandparents raising their grandchildren are eligible for family unification assistance, allows access to fair housing funds for education and outreach efforts about the legal issues surrounding many of these families. It also directs the Department of Housing and Urban Development to provide specialized training for their employees focused on grandparent- and other relative-headed families. Many grandparents do not have access to the services they and their grandchildren need. These training and outreach efforts will help raise the awareness of the unique issues these families face each day.

While this bill is a small step in recognizing the tremendous contributions of these grandparents, it is my hope that it will help bring this issue greater recognition. Affordable housing is only one of the many challenges these courageous grandparents face as they raise the next generation of Americans. Please join me in supporting these families by supporting the LEGACY Act.

HONORING STUART COHEN

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Stuart Cohen, a highly respected Emergency Transportation Specialist and Regional Emergency Planner for the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Eastern Region. Stuart recently announced his retirement after 33 years of public service during which he was a pioneer in the fields of emergency planning and environmental protection.

Upon his graduation from Empire State College, Stuart began 27 years of employment for the United States Postal Service where he held many positions including Superintendent of Postal Operations and Safety Specialist. After his time with the Postal Service, Stuart joined the U.S. Coast Guard to serve as an Occupational Safety and Health Specialist, making many contributions to safety, including the development of the first consolidated Coast Guard electronic safety and health manual.

After his tenure with the Coast Guard, Stuart continued to serve his country through the FAA's Eastern Region. With the FAA, Stuart held many positions including Regional Emergency Planner and Environmental Protection Specialist. Stuart's many achievements with the FAA highlight his commitment to safety and the preservation of our environment. Stuart provided emergency's support at the 1996 Olympic games in Atlanta, led a support team during the Federal Emergency Management

Agency's (FEMA) 1998 Exercise, and managed Department of Transportation responses to major disasters. Stuart's commitment to the environment is just as impressive. He chaired the FAA Regional Environmental Network, authored the FAA Environmental Policy Manual, and met with airline industry official regarding environmental issues.

Stuart has received many honors and awards during his distinguished career. Most notably, Stuart's courageous and selfless response to the terrorist acts of September 11, 2001 earned him the FEMA Award for Service and the State of Virginia Award for Service.

While serving his country, Stuart has kept an active private life. He has been and continues to be involved in a number of organizations including the Nassau County Auxiliary Police, U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, and Volunteer Firefighters.

In his 33 years of public service, Stuart Cohen's dedication to public safety and environmental protection has helped shaped the great nation we live in today and made the country a safer, cleaner place for all. The people of the Fourth District of New York and all Americans thank him for his hard work.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Ms. ESHOO. I was absent June 4th through 12th for a family emergency. Had I been here, I would have voted "yes" on roll call votes 237–241, 246–251, 256, 259–264, 267–271, and 275 and "no" on roll call votes 236, 242–245, 252–255, 257–258, 265–266, and 272–274.

EDITORIAL BY MR. JOSEPH SZALAY ON DEFENDING FREEDOM

HON. CHRIS CHOCOLA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 26, 2003

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to enter into the RECORD an article written by Mr. Joseph Szalay, of South Bend, Indiana. A child of the political "powder keg" that was Eastern Europe in the early part of the twentieth century, Mr. Szalay has a vast amount of knowledge from which he paints a vivid picture of America's historical role in helping to liberate all those who want to be free. He tells of the many times, from World War I to the first Gulf War, when America took a stand against governments who enslave their people. A true embodiment of the American Dream, Mr. Szalay came to America from his native Hungary poor, illiterate, and alone. He built a fine tailor shop in South Bend, from which he recently retired. As a member of the greatest generation that saw this nation ascend to global prominence, we should value his perspective and revere his patriotism. I urge all of my colleagues to use this article as a reminder of the historical precedent set for the recent liberation of the Iraqi people.